

REMARKS

The above amendments and the following remarks are fully and complete responsive to the Office Action dated February 17, 2005. Claims 1-5 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Claims 2-5 were objected to and Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). No new matter has been added. Claims 1-5 are presented for reconsideration.

Claim Objection

Claims 2-5 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, but were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. As discussed below, claim 1, from which claims 2-5 depend, is allowable over the cited prior art. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 2-5.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Aneha et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,408,149, "Aneha"). In making this rejection, the Office Action asserts that this references each element of the claimed invention. Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites in part:

a start signal generation circuit for generating a start signal in response to the stop signal indicating that a mode is changed from the stop mode to the normal mode;

In contrast, Aneha discloses that the power on-reset circuit 24 resets the counter 25. The counter 25 generates a carryover output C that is used for on-off control of switch 22. In response to a power on condition (i.e., when switch 21 is closed) power on-reset circuit 24 resets counter 25. Consequently, counter 25 generates a carryover signal C of a negative level (i.e., indicating a normal mode). A negative level carryover signal C causes switch 22 to close (i.e., turn on)(see FIGs. 2A –2G). The carryover signal C, as shown in FIG. 2C, remains at a negative level until the counter receives a predetermined number of clock pluses CKL Φ from MPU 28 that cause the counter to count to a predetermined number. When the counter reaches the predetermined number the carryover signal C will no longer be negative (i.e., indicate a stop mode) and will cause switch 22 to open (i.e., turn off).

The Office Action asserts that the power on-reset 24 is the recited start signal generating circuit. However, the power on-reset circuit 24 does not receive either the carryover signal C (one asserted stop signal) or the signal AC from logic circuit 29 (a second asserted stop signal). Consequently, power on-reset circuit 24 can not generate a start signal in response to the stop signal.

Therefore, Aneha fails to disclose the claimed invention. Specifically, Aneha does not disclose a start signal generation circuit for generating a start signal in response to a stop signal indicating that a mode is changed from a stop mode to a normal mode, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Conclusion

Applicants' amendments and remarks have overcome the objections and rejections in the Office Action dated February 17, 2005. Specifically, Applicants' remarks have overcome the objection to claims 2-5, which contain allowable subject matter. Applicants' amendments and remarks have distinguished claim 1 from Aneha and thus overcome the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Accordingly, claims 1-5 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-5.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees or any overpayment that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing attorney docket number **108075-00122**.

Respectfully submitted,



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